

IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Sean W. Tucker

Confirmation No.:

Application No.: 10/751,094

Examiner:

Filing Date: January 2, 2004

Group Art Unit:

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR BI-DIRECTIONAL ACCESS TO A FASTENING DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or  
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (c) together with either a:  
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or  
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or  
(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:  
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and  
☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).  
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individual(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

☒ I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. Date of Deposit: April 16, 2004

OR

☐ I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of pages: \_\_\_\_\_

Typed Name: John Pallivathukal

Signature: [Signature]

Respectfully submitted,

Sean W. Tucker

By [Signature]

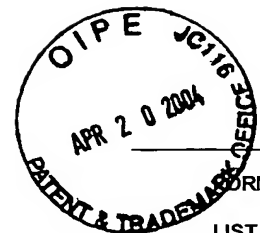
Jerry L. Mahurin

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Date: **April 16, 2004**

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## PATENT APPLICATION

Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO-1449

LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR  
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

10017979-3

APPLICATION NO.

10/751,094

CONFIRMATION NO.

APPLICANT

Sean W. Tucker

FILING DATE

January 2, 2004

GROUP

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Figures Appear
	1A	1,502,431	Jul. 22, 1924	R. W. Hubbard	
	1B	4,765,025	Aug. 23, 1988	Salazar	
	1C	4,821,025	Apr. 11, 1989	Ross, Sr.	
	1D	5,359,587	Oct. 25, 1994	Uehara	
	1E	5,593,046	Jan. 14, 1997	Katsuura et al.	
	1F	5,937,480	Aug. 17, 1999	Kiefer	
	1G	6,386,656	May 14, 2002	Chen	
	1H	6,388,876	May 14, 2002	Chen	
	1I	6,471,310	Oct. 29, 2002	Montagna	
	1J	6,491,360	Dec. 10, 2002	Qiu	
	1K	6,529,373	Mar. 04, 2003	Liao et al.	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT	Pages/Columns/Lines Where Relevant Passages/Figures Appear	Check if Translation attached
	1L	GB 1,076,403	Jul. 19, 1967	Hunt		
	1M					
	1N					
	1O					
	1P					

## OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	1Q	
	1R	
	1S	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED